PATENT

Abstract of the Disclosure

In order to circumvent the problems above, the present invention aims to expand the scope of the usage of the information included in three-dimensional shape data by acquiring the shape information included in the three-dimensional shape data

5   automatically on a shape element basis and setting linkages across the acquired information.

Linked processing can be performed across the corresponding shape information having different shape elements by adding a linkage identifier to the shape information when generating the shape information from the three-dimensional shape data. For

10   example, when processing for a single shape information is carried out, other shape information can be edited by linkage.